

# Migrant crises 'test to humanity'

Red Cross urges world to show more generosity to ill-fated fortune seekers

AFP, Geneva

Surging numbers of migrants risking their lives on rickety boats both in Southeast Asia and on the way to Europe are a test of the world's humanity, the Red Cross chief told AFP in an interview.

"The tolerance, the generosity, the openness, the solidarity of the world will be tested," said Elhadj As Sy, head of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).

"Simply put our humanity will be tested. The question is, will we pass the test?" he told AFP in his office in Geneva this week, after a visit to Asia, where he took part in a summit on migration.

Nearly 3,000 migrants have swum to shore or been rescued off Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand over the past 10 days after a Thai crackdown on human-trafficking threw the illicit trade into chaos, with some of the syndicates involved abandoning their helpless human cargo at sea.

Malaysia yesterday ordered search and rescue missions for the thousands more believed to be stranded at sea, in the first proactive official move in the region aimed at saving the boatpeople.

And Malaysia and Indonesia have said they will end a much-condemned policy of turning away boatloads of starving Muslim Rohingya fleeing from Myanmar,



A Rohingya boy from Myanmar cries beside his mother, suffering from malnutrition, while attended to by Indonesian medical workers at a newly set up confinement area at Bayeun, Aceh province yesterday, after more than 400 Rohingya migrants from Myanmar and Bangladesh were rescued by Indonesian fishermen off the waters of the province on May 20.

PHOTO: AFP

and economic migrants from Bangladesh.

"We are pleased to witness that so many people from Myanmar and Bangladesh are being hosted... while longer term solutions to this problem are being found," Sy said, adding that next time "we hope it will not take so long for that to happen."

More than 88,000 people have attempted the dangerous sea voyage across the Bay of Bengal and Andaman Sea since 2014, including more than 25,000 so far this year, according to UN numbers.

Nearly 1,000 are believed to have died at sea during that period due to precarious conditions, and

an equal number from mistreatment at the hands of traffickers and abusive smugglers.

"The hygienic conditions on such boats are horrible... Women get abused... Children witness horrific things that they should never see in their entire lives. And you know men are reduced to their minimum, unable to defend their

families," Sy said.

Red Cross and Red Crescent workers were doing their best to help, providing food, water and shelter, but also just extending "a friendly hand" to help people to "recover some sense of humanity and dignity," he said.

Sy added it was paramount to address "the situations that are really pushing people out," like the Myanmar government's treatment of its Rohingya minority.

The migrant crisis in South East Asia has ballooned at a time when Europe too is reeling from a flood of migrants risking their lives on the Mediterranean to reach its shores.

More than 5,000 people have died in the past 18 months while trying to make the dangerous crossing in flimsy dinghies and fishing boats.

The European Union agreed this week on an unprecedented naval mission starting next month to fight the human traffickers behind the deluge of migrants and refugees attempting the crossing from chaos-wracked Libya.

While acknowledging that "all the criminal activities around people that would exacerbate their vulnerabilities and their risks (must) of course be handled," Sy stressed that in both Southeast Asia and Europe the main focus should be on saving lives.

In the long term, he said, countries need to open up legal

# Qatar 'still failing' migrant workers

Amnesty accuses Doha of playing PR stunts in the name of reforms

AFP, Doha

Football 2022 World Cup host Qatar is "failing" many of its migrant workers by not delivering on labour law reform, Amnesty International claimed yesterday.

In the latest of a string of reports on Qatari labour "abuse", the rights watchdog said Doha had not followed through on promises to change laws governing workers in key areas including the "kafala" system that blocks workers from leaving the country and curbs on changing employers.

In its latest briefing, "Promising little, delivering less: Qatar and migrant labour abuse ahead of the 2022 Football World Cup", Amnesty said the pace of change is too slow.

This puts Doha's reform promises in danger of being seen as a "mere public relations stunt to ensure the Gulf state can cling on to the 2022 World Cup".

There are up to an estimated one million migrant labourers currently working in Qatar.

Amnesty's Mustafa Qadri said: "Last year the government made promises to improve migrant labour rights in Qatar,



but in practice, there have been no significant advances.

"The lack of a clear roadmap of targets and benchmarks for reform leaves serious doubts about Qatar's commitment to tackling migrant labour abuse."

Amnesty also called on football's world governing body FIFA to put more pressure on Qatar to change.

However Doha, which has found itself at the centre of an international storm over its labour practices, said its commitment to reform was genuine.

On Wednesday World Cup sponsors, including Visa and Coca-Cola, pressed FIFA to improve labour conditions.

"We continue to be troubled by the reports coming out of Qatar related to the World Cup and migrant worker conditions," credit card giant Visa said, adding it had expressed its "grave concern" directly to FIFA.

It all caps a turbulent week for Qatar and there may be further trouble ahead.

On Monday, it emerged that a team of four BBC journalists invited to Qatar to examine labourers' living conditions had been arrested and held without charge.

FIFA is due to hold a meeting later next that could see a resolution tabled to remove the World Cup from Qatar because of the slow pace of reforms.

# China to explore 'dark side' of the moon

CNN ONLINE

China is considering landing a spacecraft on the moon's "dark side" in 2020 -- a mission, which, if successful, would make it the first country to do so, state media reports.

The planned mission will see the Chang'e 4 spacecraft orbit the moon before sending a rover to the surface, Wu Weiren, the chief engineer for China's Lunar Exploration Program told state-run broadcaster CCTV.

"We probably will choose a site on which it is more difficult to land and more technically challenging... Our next move will probably see some spacecraft land on the far side of the moon," Wu said.

China successfully landed a spacecraft - the Chang'e 3 - on the moon in December 2013, becoming only the third nation after the United States and Russia to land on the moon's surface.



While the side of the moon not visible from earth has been observed by various probes, a landing has never been attempted.

Some security experts fear China's ambitious lunar exploration program could mean a future of Chinese dominance over the moon's resources.

These include water and Helium 3 -- a clean-burning fuel that could potentially offer an alternative to nuclear power.

# 'Migrate to the sea to bring migrants here'

Thai junta PM slams critics as he says no to migrants

AFP, Bangkok

Thailand's junta chief yesterday said those who felt his government should do more to help stranded boatpeople should "migrate" to sea themselves and swap places with them.

The comments from Prime Minister Prayut Chan-O-Cha came as Bangkok was criticised for not following Indonesia and Malaysia in agreeing on Wednesday to accept stranded migrants.

"Anyone who supports this idea (of accepting boatpeople), please contribute one baht a day or take them to your home when their case has been processed," the former army chief, who took over in a coup a year ago, told lawmakers during a speech on the budget.

"Or you migrate out to the sea and bring them to live here instead," he added.

In the past 10 days, nearly 3,000 Myanmar Rohingyas and Bangladeshis have been rescued or swum to shore in Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand.

Several thousand more are believed to be trapped on boats at sea with little food or water in a crisis sparked by smugglers abandoning their human cargo after a Thai crackdown on human-trafficking routes.

Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand had sparked growing international outrage by driving off boats overloaded with exhausted migrants.

But after a meeting in Kuala Lumpur on Wednesday, Malaysia and Indonesia softened their stance, saying they would take in migrants for a year, or until they can be resettled or repatriated with the help of international agencies.

In a further step Malaysia Thursday ordered a search and rescue mission to look for stranded migrants.

Thailand, which was at the meeting, did not sign up to the initiative, a decision ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights described Thursday as a "colossal failure of regional leadership".

But Prayut defended Thailand's policy towards migrants, saying the country was



**INSTITUTE OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND VULNERABILITY STUDIES UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA**

**Admission to 8<sup>th</sup> Batch Postgraduate Diploma and Certificate Programme in Disaster Management-2015**

Applications are invited from candidates in prescribed form for admission into the Six Months Postgraduate Diploma in Disaster Management (PGDDM) and Five Weeks Postgraduate Certificate Programme in Disaster Management.

**Eligibility for Admission:** Admission is open to individuals, either Bangladeshi or foreign nationals, who have at least Bachelor Degree with Honours or its equivalent from any recognized university or at least a four year graduation degree or master degree with pass course graduation. The applicants should have minimum second division/Class or GPA/CGPA 2.5 in any public examination. No individual with only pass course graduation degree, or having third division/class at any level is eligible to apply. Individuals in the fields of environment, disaster management, development, climate change and practical experiences like professionals and practitioners and who are currently in services to the relevant fields are encouraged to apply.

**Duration of the Programme:** The duration of Postgraduate Diploma Programme is of Six Months and Postgraduate Certificate Programme is of Five Weeks which includes comprehensive and multidisciplinary class teaching, assignment, field based research, presentation, comprehensive assessment and graduation in the area of climate, disaster risk reduction, vulnerabilities, coping mechanism, resilience, sustainability and comprehensive disaster management including disaster mitigation, reconstruction and rehabilitation.

**Application for Admission:** Prescribed application form for admission and other required materials should be collected from the office of the Institute of Disaster Management and Vulnerability Studies, University of Dhaka.

**Time for Collection of Application Form:** From 30 April to 13 June, 2015: Sunday to Thursday: 9.00 am - 7.00 pm and Friday to Saturday: 2.30 pm - 7.00 pm.

**Submission of Application Form:** The filled-in application form must be submitted to the office of the Institute of Disaster and Vulnerability Studies by June 13, 2015.

**Contact Address:** Institute of Disaster Management and Vulnerability Studies, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Lecture Theatre Building, University of Dhaka. Tel: 9661900-73, Ext. 4727, 4728. Phone: 01710842498, 01914225151, 01756777401, 01719325632, Email: idmvsdu@gmail.com, website: www.du.ac.bd, www.idmvs.edu.bd

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**

Local Government Engineering Department  
Third Primary Education Development Program (PEDP-3)  
Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207

**Corrigendum Notice**

Memo: LGED/PEDP-3/E-01/2012/3267 Date: 21-05-2015

This is to notify all concerned that the last submit date for submission of Expression of Interest (EOI) Ref No: LGED/PEDP-3/E-01/2012/2866, Date: 17-05-2015 for selection of Individual National Consultant under Third Primary Education Development Program (PEDP-3) has been amended as follows:

Previous Submission Date as Published	Present Submission Date as Amended
Expressions of Interest shall be submitted by 5th June 2015 within 3:00pm	Expressions of Interest shall be submitted by 8th June 2015 within 3:00pm

All other terms and conditions will remain the same. This will be part & parcel of the Request for Application (RFA) and binding upon the applicants.

**Md Abul Kalam Azad**  
Additional Chief Engineer (Implementation)  
LGED Bhaban (Level-8)  
Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207

GD-1891

**Election Commission Bangladesh**  
Election Commission Secretariat

**Tender for Goods (Single Lot)**

Ref. No: 17.00.0000.057.70.002.14-132 Dated: 21/05/2015

KEY INFORMATION				
1	Procurement method/document: Open Tender Method (OTM), National			
FUNDING INFORMATION				
2	Source of funds: Revenue Budget (Government).			
PARTICULAR INFORMATION				
3	Tender package No.: ECS15_ICTGD02			
4	Tender package name: Supply and installation of ICT equipments.			
5	Tender publication date: 21-05-15			
6	Tender last selling date: 07-06-15			
7	Tender closing date and time: 08/06/2015 at 2:00pm.			
8	Tender opening date and time: 08/06/2015 at 2:30pm.			
9	Name and address of the office(s): Selling tender document: Maintenance Engineer, Room-21, Block-5, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Election Commission Secretariat, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka. Receiving tender document: Maintenance Engineer, Room-21, Block-5, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Election Commission Secretariat, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka.			
10	Opening tender document: Senior Maintenance Engineer, Room-22, Block-5, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Election Commission Secretariat, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka.			
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER				
11	Eligibility of tenderer: Tenderer fulfilling the conditions lying in the tender document.			
12	Brief description of goods: Desktop Computer, Network Switch, Monitor, UPS, Wireless Router, Keyboard, Mouse, CD etc.			
13	Brief description of related services: Supplying and installation of ICT equipments.			
14	Tender document price: Taka 500/- (five hundred only).			
Lot No.	Identification	Location	Tender security amount in Taka	Completion time in weeks
1	Supply and installation of ICT equipments	Dhaka	32,000 (thirty-two thousand only)	1 (one) week
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS				
16	Name of official inviting tender	Md. Ikbal Zavid.		
17	Designation of official inviting tender	Maintenance Engineer.		
18	Address of official inviting tender	Maintenance Engineer, Room-21, Block-5, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Election Commission Secretariat, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka.		
19	Tender	Tel. 9180792, E-mail: ikbalcse@yahoo.com		

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.

GD-1896

**Dhaka Mass Transit Company Limited**  
(A Government Owned Company)  
Level 14, Probashi Kallyan Bhaban, 71-72, Old Elephant Road, Eskaton Garden, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh

**Corrigendum No. 1 Dated 15th May 2015**

To  
IFF No. CP-07 dated 18 March 2015  
Invitation of Prequalification Application for Contract No. CP-07

**Procurement of E&M Systems Comprising of Track Works, Electrification (Power Supply and Catenary) System, Signaling System, Telecommunication System, Automatic Fare Collection, Platform Screen Door, Lifts and Escalators for MRT Line 6**

The Prospective Applicants are hereby informed that the due date of sale/submission of pre-qualification documents for Contract No. CP-07 has been extended as detailed below.

No.	Reference	Description	Revised
1.	Invitation for prequalification (IFP), Sl. No. 4	PQ documents on Sale	18th March 2015 to 23rd June 2015 from 9.00hrs. (BST) to 16.30hrs. (BST).
2.	ITA 16.1 (page 28)	Date and Time for submission of PQ	24th June 2015 between 10.00hrs. (BST) to 12.00hrs. (noon) (BST).
3.	ITA 18.1 (page 28 & 29)	Date and time of opening of PQ	24th June 2015 at 12:30hrs (BST)
4.		Other details	All other details published for this PQ dated 18th March 2015 remain unaltered.

**Md Mofazzel Hossain**  
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